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Message Text

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56
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 AGR-05 STR-04 TRSE-00

FEA-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /104 W
---------- 071138
R 011236Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6831
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USDEL MTN GENEVA
USMISSION GENEVA

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DEPARTMENT PASS AGRICULTURE (FAS)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, EEC, GW
SUBJECT: EC'S SCHEME FOR DISPOSAL OF NFDM

REF: STATE 048239

1. PER INSTRUCTIONS, HIGH MINAG OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN INFORMED OF U.S.'S POSITION REGARDING THE NEW PROPOSED MIXING REGULATION. WE POINTED OUT AGAIN THAT THE MIXING REGULATION IMPOSES AN IMPORT CONTROL ON SOYBEAN
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AND SOYBEAN MEAL FOR WHICH THE U. S. HAS BOUND ZERO

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DUTY, THAT IT IS INCONSISTENT WITH GATT, AND IF ADOPTED, WILL CAUSE THE U. S. TO PURSUE VIGOROUSLY ITS RIGHTS UNDER GATT.

2. WE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE GERMAN FARMERS' UNION, THE FEED MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, THE GERMAN HOG PRODUCERS, THE GERMAN POULTRY PRODUCERS, AND ALL GERMAN AGRICULTURE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MILK PRODUCERS WERE OPPOSED TO THE MIXING REGULATION.

3. MINAG OFFICIALS INFORMED US THAT THEY WERE WELL AWARE OF OPPOSITION FROM THE U.S. AND FROM THEIR OWN AGRI-BUSINESS COMMUNITY REGARDING THE MIXING REGULATION. THEY HAVE ALSO STATED THAT THERE IS REALLY NOBODY IN THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT WHO WANTS TO SEE THIS PROPOSED COMMISSION REGULATION ADOPTED.

4. MINAG OFFICIALS NOTE THAT THEY STILL HAVE THE PROBLEM OF GETTING RID OF NFDM POWDER. THEY BELIEVE THAT IF NO ACTION IS TAKEN, IT WILL NOT BE LONG BEFORE THEY HAVE TWO MILLION TONS INSTEAD OF ONE MILLION TONS OF NFDM SURPLUS IN THE COMMUNITY. THEIR OWN IDEA IS TO MAKE MILK PRODUCERS PAY A TAX OF ONE PF. PER LITER OF FLUID MILK PRODUCED. THIS TAX WOULD BE UTILIZED TO MOVE THE MILK POWDER INTO FEED CONSUMPTION. THEY WANT TO PROPOSE THIS PROGRAM AT THIS TIME TO THE COMMISSION, BUT FEEL THAT IT IS NOT WORKED OUT WELL ENOUGH AND TIME MIGHT NOT PERMIT A NEW PROGRAM TO BE CONSIDERED AT THIS POINT.

5. WE INFORMED THE MINAG OFFICIALS THAT WHILE WE UNDERSTAND THEIR PROBLEM, IT IS, IN FACT, THEIR PROBLEM NOT OURS. HOWEVER, IN PROPOSING A PROGRAM OF TAXATION ON SOYBEAN IMPORTS, THEY ARE MAKING US PAY FOR WHAT THEY ARE DOING. THIS WE CANNOT TOLERATE FOR IT IS THEIR PROBLEM AND IT IS FOR THEM TO FIND THE SOLUTION WITHIN THE RULES WHICH THEY HAVE AGREED TO IN THE GATT.
HILLENBRAND

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